

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION HELD AUGUST 11, 2009

The Historic Preservation Commission of the City of Eufaula met in regular session Tuesday, August 11, 2009, at 4:00 p.m. in the Municipal Courtroom at the Eufaula Police Department Complex, 545 East Barbour Street. Upon call of the roll the following members were present: Chairman David Ongemach, Doug Purcell, Bruce Turner, Judi Mathisen. Vice Chairman Curtis Williams entered at 4:15 p.m. Absent: none.

Also present: Bill Klein and Kenny Hayes, City Building Inspectors.

Chairman Ongemach opened the meeting by reading a statement of intent and purpose of the Historic Preservation Commission: "The Eufaula Historic Preservation Commission was established by City of Eufaula Ordinance 2001-2 on March 5, 2001. The purpose of the Commission is to promote the preservation of buildings, structures and sites of historic and architectural value within our city. All of the members of the Commission are unpaid volunteers. We are here today to review applications to see if the design of the proposed projects meet the design review manual requirements established by the city council for projects in the locally designated historic district."

Chairman Ongemach introduced visitors to the meeting: Jim Mathisen, Don Kellogg and Ray Buckingham.

Mr. Purcell asked Commission members to pause for a moment to reflect on the important role the late Joel P. Smith, Sr. played with the Historic Preservation Commission. He stated Commission members are regretful for his passing, yet thankful for the many years of hard work in historic preservation in Eufaula. After discussion, it was decided Mr. Purcell will draft a letter on behalf of the Commission expressing its regret at his passing and appreciation for his service.

Mrs. Mathisen moved to approve the minutes of the July 14, 2009 work session minutes. Mr. Turner seconded the motion. Roll call vote was recorded as follows: Yeas: Chairman Ongemach, Mr. Purcell, Mrs. Mathisen, Mr. Turner. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Mrs. Mathisen moved to approve the minutes of the July 14, 2009 regular meeting. Mr. Turner seconded the motion. Roll call vote was recorded as follows: Yeas: Chairman Ongemach, Mr. Purcell, Mrs. Mathisen, Mr. Turner. Nays: none. Motion carried.

The first item on the agenda was a request for Certificate of Appropriateness for signage at 119 S. Eufaula Avenue, Eufaula Thrift Mall. There was no one present to represent the application, and no drawing or rendering of the sign accompanied the application. Vice Chairman Williams stated he had spoken with the owners of the business and understood they were going to place the sign on the inside of the window, which does not require a COA. He stated he noticed

today there is lettering on the window. After discussion, Chairman Ongemach stated there was insufficient information to act on the COA, and the application was deemed incomplete.

The next application was a request for Certificate of Appropriateness for Dr. William Moorer, 640 N. Eufaula Avenue, for construction of a 48' handicapped access ramp. Contractor Bob Kornegay addressed the Commission on behalf of the applicant and presented a drawing with dimensions of the proposed structure, which will be located on the south side of the residence. Mr. Kornegay stated the ramp will be mostly obscured by shrubbery and foliage, and will only be in place for as long as the occupants of the home have use for it. Mr. Purcell asked if the structure will be painted. Mr. Kornegay stated it will be at least six months, and will probably be painted when the entire house is re-painted. Chairman Ongemach reviewed the requirements of Chapter 12, Accessibility. Mr. Kornegay stated the project meets all the requirements of the chapter. After discussion, Mr. Purcell moved to approve the application as submitted. Vice Chairman Williams seconded the motion. Roll call vote was recorded as follows: Yeas: Chairman Ongemach, Vice Chairman Williams, Mr. Purcell, Mrs. Mathisen, Mr. Turner. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Under old business, Chairman Ongemach stated he has received an e-mail from Terry Honan regarding the Martin-Bullock-Ballowe House wanting to know what the Commission can do to get the property owner to resume work on the structure. Mr. Honan states work is at a standstill. Mr. Purcell stated he feels the Commission has gone out of its way to accommodate Mr. Sellers, the property owner. Vice Chairman Williams noted perhaps Mr. Sellers is experiencing economic issues. Chairman Ongemach stated that would be an assumption, as Mr. Sellers has never indicated any such problem. Mr. Purcell noted there are some very basic things that can be done to the property to weather it in at very little cost.

Ray Buckingham addressed the Commission regarding the reversibility of the Acosta handicapped access ramp on North Randolph Avenue. He stated he does not believe the ramp is being used any longer, and it was part of the provision of approval that it be removed when no longer used. He also asked if Mid-South Bank is going to have to comply with the Design Guidelines for its new bank building located on the corner of Eufaula Avenue and Barbour Street. Mr. Purcell stated a small portion of that property is located in the district, and meetings were held with the former bank president to advise him that the bank would have to comply with the guidelines. He stated he will make sure the new president, Pat Riley, is aware of this also.

Mr. Purcell asked Building Inspector Bill Klein if he had an update on the Martin Theater property. Mr. Klein stated he was still working on the property, but had been busy with the Cherry/Colby Street property and would follow up as soon as possible.

Vice Chairman Williams stated he wished to submit the name of Dr. David Ware for consideration of appointment to the Commission. The secretary stated Dr. Ware should prepare a short biographical sketch or resume and forward it to her office for review by the mayor.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, motion was duly made and seconded to adjourn.

THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
OF THE CITY OF EUFAULA, ALABAMA

David Ongemach, Chairman

ATTEST:

Teri Bush, Secretary/CLG Liaison